# This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations and is not a part of the Official Record

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

## IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents will not correct images, please do not report the images to the Image Problem Mailbox.

PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ler the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number

# TRANSMITTAL Filing Date November 12, 2003 First Named Inventor Shuibo Xie Art Unit Examiner Name \* Total Number of Pages in This Submission Application Number 10/706,880 Filing Date November 12, 2003 \* Examiner Name \* Attorney Docket Number 1856-40401(9948.0-02)

| ENC   | LOSURES (check all that ap                       | ply)                   | -  |
|---|--|------------------------|--|
| Fee Transmittal Form  | ☐ Drawing(s)                                     | A                      | After Allowance Communication  |
| Fee Attached  | ☐ Licensing-related Papers                       |                        | o Group  Appeal Communication to Board                               |
| ☐ Amendment/Reply   | ☐ Petition                                       |                        | of Appeals and Interferences   |
| ☐ After Final   | Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application |                        | Appeal Communication to Group ppeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)      |
| Affidavits/declaration(s)   | Power of Attorney, Revocation                    |                        | roprietary Information   |
| Extension of Time Request   | Change of Correspondence Addre                   |                        | status Letter  |
| Express Abandonment Request   | ☐ Terminal Disclaimer                            | _                      | Other Enclosure(s) (please   |
| ☐ Information Disclosure Statement  | ☐ Request for Refund                             | i                      | dentify below): 1 PTO-1449 (4 p.); THIRTY-                           |
| Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  | ☐ CD, Number of CD(s)                            | NINE                   | (39) Cited References; and owledgement postcard                      |
| Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application   |  |                        |  |
| Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53   | Remarks  |                        |  |
| SIGNATURE O   | F APPLICANT, ATTORNE                             | Y, OR                  | AGENT  |
| Firm Or Individual Name  Signature  Date  February 4, 20  | hy/h   |                        |  |
| CERTIFIC  | ATE OF TRANSMISSION/                             | MAILI                  | NG   |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is be Service with sufficient postage as first class Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date show Typed or Printed Name | s mail in an envelope addressed to: Cown below.  | or deposi<br>ommission | ted with the United States Postal<br>er for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, |
|   |  |                        | Fohmom 4 2004  |
| Signature   | Da   | le                     | February 4, 2004   |

119140.01/1856.40401

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PPLICANT:

Shuibo Xie et al.

**GROUP ART UNIT:** 

**SERIAL NO.:** 

10/706,880

FILED:

November 12, 2003

**EXAMINER:** 

FOR:

Improved Supports for High Surface

Area Catalysts

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Atty. Dkt. No.: 1856-40401(9948.0-02)

Date: February 4, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which Applicants are aware. If this application was filed prior to June 30, 2003, a copy of each publication listed on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and the references submitted therewith is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation, that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action. It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no certification or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Johnson

Reg. No. 53,078

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

P. O. Box 3267

Houston, Texas 77253-3267

(713) 238-8000

ATTORNEY/AGENT FOR APPLICANT

Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Atty. Docket No. Serial No. 1856-40401 (9948.0-02) 10/706,880 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) FEB 0 6 2004 Shuibo Xie et al. Filing Date Group November 11, 2003 REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER DOCUMENT** DATE NAME **CLASS** SUB-**FILING DATE** INITIAL NUMBER **CLASS** IF **APPROPRIATE**  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}$ 3752775 Yamaguchi et al. 252 464 08/14/1973 502 AB 4537873 Kato et al. 242 08/27/1985 AC 4585752 502 Ernest 314 04/29/1986 AD 4738946 Yamashita et al. 502 303 04/19/1988 ΑE 4793797 143 7 Kato et al. 12/27/1988 AF 4961786 Novinson 106 692 10/09/1990 AG 5837634 McLaughlin et al. 501 127 11/17/1998 AH 6399528 Krell et al. 501 80 03/05/2001 06/04/2002 ΑI 2003/0032554 Park et al. 502 302 05/13/2002 02/13/2003 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **DOCUMENT** DATE **COUNTRY CLASS** SUB-Translation NUMBER **CLASS YES** NO OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) **EXAMINER** DATE CONSIDERED EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP '609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance

and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

|    | OIPE             |
|----|------------------|
| (E | FEB 0 6 2004 6   |
| 13 | GADE for form 14 |

or form 1449B/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

|       | (use us many sneets | <b>u</b> s | Jessus y/ | Examiner Name          |                       |
|-------|---------------------|------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sheet | 2                   | of         | 4         | Attorney Docket Number | 1856-40401(9948.0-02) |

Complete if Known

**Application Number** 

First Named Inventor

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

10/706,880

Shuibo Xie

November 12, 2003

|                       |              | OTHER PRIOR ART NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS  |                |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate) title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issued number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
| <u> </u>              | AJ           | Amato et al., Sintering of Pelleted Catalysts for Automotive Emission Control, pp. 187-197   |                |
|                       | AK           | Arai et al., Recent Progress in High-Temperature Catalytic Combustion, Catalysis Today, 10 (1991) pp. 81-94  |                |
|                       | AL           | Arai et al., Thermal Stabilization of Catalyst Supports and their Application to High-Temperature Catalytic Combustion, Applied Catalysis A: General 138 (1996) pp. 161-176  |                |
|                       | AM           | Artizzu-Duart et al, Catalytic Combustion of Methane on Substituted Barium Hexaaluminates,<br>Catalysis Today 59 (2000) pp. 163-177  |                |
|                       | AN           | Beguin et al., Stabilization of Alumina by Addition of Lanthanum, Applied Catalysis 75 (1991) pp. 119-132  |                |
|                       | AO           | Bish et al., Quantitative Phase Analysis Using the Rietveld Method, J. Appl. Cryst. (1998) 21, pp. 86-91   |                |
|                       | AP           | Cai et al., Atomic Scale Mechanism of the Transformation of y-Alumina to O-Alumina, Physical Review Letters, Vol. 89, No. 23, (12/02/2002) pp. 235501-1 – 235501-4   |                |
|                       | AQ           | Chen et al., High Temperature Thermal Stabilization of Alumina Modified by Lanthanum Species, Applied Catalysis A: General 205 (2001) pp. 159-172  |                |
|                       | AR           | Dexpert-Ghys, Optical and Structural Investigation of the Lanthanum β-Alumina Phase Doped with Europium, Journal of Solid State Chemistry 19, (1976) pp. 193-204   |                |
|                       | AS           | Farrington et al., The Lanthanide β" Alumina, Applied Physics A 32 (1983) pp. 159-161  |                |
|                       | AT           | Groppi et al., Preparation and Characterization of Hexaaluminate-Based Materials for Catalytic Combustion, Applied Catalysis A: General, 104 (1993) pp. 101-108  |                |
|                       | AU           | Jang et al., Catalytic Oxidation of Methane Over Hexaaluminates and Hexaaluminate-Supported Pd Catalysts, Catalysis Today 47 (1999) pp. 103-113  |                |
|                       | AV           | Johansson et al., Development of Hexaaluminate Catalysts for Combustion of Gasified Biomass in Gas Turbines, Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power, Vol. 124 (04/2002) pp. 235-238   |                |
| -                     | AW           | Kato et al., Preparation of Lanthanum β-Alumina with High Surface Area by Coprecipitation, Journal of the American Ceramic Society, 70 [7] (07/1987) pp. C-157-159   |                |
|                       | AX           | Levy et al., The Effect of Foreign lons on the Stability of Activated Alumina, Journal of Catalysis 9 (1967) pp. 76-86   |                |
| Examiner<br>Signature |              | Dated<br>Considered  |                |

119077.01/1856.40401



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

|       | (use us muny sneets | us nec | .essury) | Examiner Name          |                       |
|-------|---------------------|--------|----------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sheet | 3                   | of     | 4        | Attorney Docket Number | 1856-40401(9948.0-02) |

Complete if Known

10/706,880

Shuibo Xie

November 12, 2003

Application Number

First Named Inventor

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

|                       |              | OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURI   |   |                             |    |
|-----------------------|--------------|---|---|-----------------------------|----|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the artic item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, p publisher, city and/or country where publi | age(s), volume-issu                     |                             | T² |
|                       | AY           | Liu et al., Partial Oxidation of Methane over Nickel Catalysts Sup<br>Journal of Chemical Engineering 19 (5) pp. 735-741 (2002)   | ported on Vari                          | ous Aluminas, Korean        |    |
|                       | AZ           | Liu et al., Partial Oxidation of Methane over Ni/Ce-ZrOy/0-/<br>Engineering 19(5) pp. 742-748 (2002)  | 4l <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Korean | Journal of Chemical         |    |
|                       | ВА           | Machida et al., Effect of Additives on the Surface Area of Oxide Journal of Catalysts 103 (1987) pp. 385-393  | Supports for C                          | Catalytic Combustion,       |    |
|                       | BB           | Machida et al., Analytical Electron Microscope Analysis of the Fo<br>American Ceramic Society 71[12] pp. 1142-47 (1988)   | ormation of Ba                          | $O - 6Al_2O_3$ . Journal of |    |
|                       | BC           | Machida et al., Effect of Structural Modification on the Ca<br>Hexaaluminates, Journal of Catalysis 123 (1990) pp. 477-785  | talytic Proper                          | ty of Mn-Substituted        |    |
|                       | BD           | Matsuda et al., 8th International Congress on Catalysis Volume Catalysis Structure-Selectivity/Activity Correlations New Routes for   |   |                             |    |
|                       | BE           | Miao et al., Partial Oxidation of Methane to Syngas over Nickel<br>Metal Oxide and Rare Earth Metal Oxide, Applied Catalysts A:   |   |                             |    |
|                       | BF           | Nair et al., Pore Structure Evolution of Lanthana-Alumina System Journal of American Ceramic Society 83[8] (2000) pp. 1942-194  |   | ough Coprecipitation,       |    |
|                       | BG           | Oudet et al., Thermal Stabilization of Transition Alumina by Struct<br>Pr, Nd), Journal of Catalysis 114, (1998) pp. 112-120  | ural Coherence                          | with $LnAlO_3(Ln = La,$     |    |
|                       | ВН           | Rahkeev et al., Transition Metal Atoms on Different Alumina Phas<br>Catalytic Activity, Physical Review B 67, 115414 (2003) pg. 4   | ses: The Role o                         | f Subsurfaces Sites on      |    |
|                       | BI           | Rietveld, A Profile Refinement Method for Nuclear and Magneti (1969) 2, pp. 65-71   | c Structures, Jo                        | ournal of Appl. Cryst.      |    |
|                       | BJ           | Roh et al., Partial Oxidation of Methane over Ni/0-Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Catalys 667)  | sts, Chemistry I                        | Letters 2001 (pp. 666-      |    |
|                       | BK           | Santos et al., Standard Transition Aluminas, Electron Microscop, No. 4 (2000) pp. 104-114   | y Studies, Mate                         | rials Research, Vol. 3      | -  |
|                       | BL           | Schaper et al., The Influence of Lanthanum Oxide on the Thermal Supports, Applied Catalysis 7 (1983) pp. 211-220  | Stability of Gan                        | nma Alumina Catalyst        |    |
|                       | AM           | Schaper et al., Thermal Stabilization of High Surface Area Alum<br>261-266  | ina, Solid State                        | e Ionics 16 (1985) pp.      | -  |
|                       | AN           | Seo et al., Experimental and Numerical Studies on Combustio<br>Stabilized Combustor, Catalysis Today 59 (2000) pp. 75-86  | n Characterist                          | ics of a Catalytically      |    |
| Examiner<br>Signature |              |   | Dated<br>Considered                     |                             | 1  |

119077.01/1856.40401 3 Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLASSIVE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

|       |   | <br> |   |  |
|-------|---|------|---|--|
| Sheet | 4 | of   | 4 |  |

| Comp                   | plete if Known        |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/706,880            |
| Filing Date            | November 12, 2003     |
| First Named Inventor   | Shuibo Xie            |
| Group Art Unit         |                       |
| Examiner Name          |                       |
| Attorney Docket Number | 1856-40401(9948.0-02) |

| tle of the umber(s),         | Examiner Cite Initials* No.1 |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| rial and                     | ВО                           |
| nal of Molecular             | ВР                           |
| ing the Full                 | BQ                           |
| l of Alloys and              | BR                           |
| an and Hall                  | BS                           |
| Situ Time-<br>2, pp. 102-113 | ВТ                           |
| Oxide-Aluminium              | BU                           |
| n Aluminas,                  | BV                           |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              |                              |
|                              | Examiner<br>Signature        |